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Covers the Torrance
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The Torrance Herald

"There is no
Substitute for
Circulation."

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WILL LOP POLICE BUDGET, REPORT

Man and Woman Shotgun Bandits Hold Up Two Lomitans

DISTRICT AGOG OVER BIG CONTEST

HEAVY CUT PLAN OF BOARD

Saving of \$4800 a Year Contemplated by Trustees, Rumor

DISCUSS JESSUP BASIS

Dennis and Inman Head Opposition to Engineer Centage System

That an aggregate of approximately \$4800 a year will be lopped off the police department budget by the new Board of Trustees was the unofficial report in city hall circles this week.

The saving, it is asserted, will be effected by a reduction in the salary of the chief from \$300 to about \$200 a month and a decrease in the number of men on the force by at least two.

While this report was in circulation and was said to have emanated from official sources, interest still centered in next Monday night's meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Whether any action will be taken relative to the police department and the city marshal has not been stated officially. The trustees met informally this Monday night to discuss unifying a number of matters regarding city affairs.

They discussed the police department at length, Mayor John Dennis asserted. But he would not state whether or not they had reached any decision.

"We did find out that we can agree," he said.

Another matter discussed by the board was the proposed fire station and city office building. Bids for the construction of this building were received by the board and it now devolves on the new board to award the contract or reject all bids.

The new trustees discussed the engineering department at length. This discussion centered around the percentage basis on which City Engineer J. J. Jessup is now functioning.

Charles Inman was the chief opponent of continuation of the present system.

No change can be made until Mr. Jessup has completed his work on improvements now under way.

It is rumored that no changes will be made effective in the police department in cases where officers have children in school until the school term is finished, although it is expected that the board will notify members of the department of contemplated changes before that time.

While the trustees are proceeding cautiously in the consideration of all important aspects of city affairs in order to avoid rash action, groups of citizens still are actively pushing their campaigns for various candidates for chief of police.

It is expected that a petition will be presented to the board next Monday night asking for the appointment of William Phillips. While this petition is being circulated friends of Chief Louie Patterson continue to urge the advisability of making no change in the police executive and still others are urging that Ben Olsen, first chief of Torrance, be appointed.

After an overture by the Torrance trio—Jack Reeve, John Fiesel and Julian Geniero—the curtain rose on a stage full of darkies. The end "men"—Olga Cook, Myrtle Dilly, Edna Stone and Elsie Smith—wore green coats, white trousers and high hats. The chorus—Ethel Miller, Lillian Dye, Estelle Greaves, Clemma Watson, Mary Peterson, Luella Curler, Marguerite Wright, Ila Gilbert, Minnie Ott, Laura McFarland and Mary McCarthy—were

Public School Night

Rotarians and Kiwanians Discuss Home-Town Problems

'CIVIC SPIRIT NEEDED' One-Minute Speakers Suggest Live-in-Torrance Idea for C. of C.

Public School Night, sponsored by the Torrance lodge of Masons as part of a national Masonic movement, will be observed tomorrow night at the High School Auditorium. An engaging program designed to be of import to every parent in the city has been arranged. The public is cordially invited to attend.

The program will be almost entirely a home-town affair. Carl L. Hyde will speak on "The Future of Adult Education." Herbert Wood, principal of the high school, will speak on "What Are Our Schools Trying to Do, and Are They Doing It?" Dr. George P. Shidler will speak on "Parents and Home in Relation to School."

The meeting will open at 8 o'clock with a flag presentation and pledge by Boy Scouts. After the singing of "America," an outline of the purpose of Public School Night will be presented.

The Junior High School Orchestra will play. Fred Shidler will favor with a xylophone solo, accompanied by Miss Nyla Tansey.

Mrs. Gordon Groves will sing "La Golondrina," accompanied by Mrs. O. W. Thistle.

May Day Party For Tots To Be Given by Star

Members of Chapter and Children to Have Party in Park

A May Day party will be given in the upper park on El Prado Saturday afternoon by the Torrance Chapter of the Eastern Star.

The party is for children of 12 or under, and for members of Eastern Star families, only.

The guests are to go to the Manuel avenue entrance of the park, where they will be greeted by Mrs. Gus Howry, who is in charge of the affair.

Minstrel Show Goes Over Big As Club Women Disport Selves In Dress of Southern Darkies

Standing room only was available when the club women on the Women's Club minstrel show Friday night. As early as 7 o'clock people began to arrive to wait outside until the doors opened.

Over 500 tickets were sold before Friday and the show was the biggest success the club ever has had. To pick one number out of the program and say it was better than another would be a difficult task, as all numbers were good. Perhaps the dancing by little Virginia Cook and little May Sleep was a little more noticeable on account of their age.

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BOYS ACT AS CITY HEADS

See to It That Ball Diamond Is Put in Shape

CITY HONORS YOUTHS

Week Sponsored by Rotary Club Brings Home Message

Torrance this week is paying homage to its greatest storehouse of wealth—the city's boys.

Starting Sunday with sermons in the churches and continuing throughout the week, a program designed to acquaint the city with the potentialities of its boyhood has been carried out under the auspices of the boys' work committee of the Rotary Club, headed by Charles V. Jones.

Carl Hyde and Mr. Jones carried the message of Torrance men to Torrance boys at a mass meeting at the High School Auditorium Monday. They explained the purpose behind Boys' Week, stressing the fact that it is aimed at closer contact between adults and youth and a stimulation of interest by and between older men and boys.

On Tuesday boys took over the reins of the Torrance city government. Duly chosen officers functioned at the city hall in all departments. Officers were elected as follows: Board of Trustees—Harold Romine (mayor), Harry Phillips, Richard Von Hagen, Tom Jones, and Ray Sleppey; city clerk, Warren McMillan; city treasurer, Richard Patterson.

The Board of Trustees appointed the following officers: Chief of police, Harwood Clark; city attorney, Floyd Chandler; superintendent of streets, Tom Doherty; fire chief, Ben Hannebrink Jr.; city recorder, Walter Zuber.

These officers took office and functioned for two hours, performing all the duties of their respective positions.

The trustees held a regular meeting. They let the contract for the new fire station and office building; received a report on the progress of the west side paving proceedings from City Engineer Lex Briney; and referred to the

(Continued on Page 2)

PAIR ROBS TWO OF CASH, JEWELS

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wilson Forced to Open House at Point of Sawed-off Weapon While Woman and Man Ransack Home

Confronted by a man and a woman as they stepped out of their car at their home late Tuesday night, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wilson, local druggist, were forced at the point of a sawed-off shotgun and an automatic to unlock their door and stand by while the masked couple ransacked the house.

The bandits secured \$125, three diamonds, rings, two watches, other odd bits of jewelry, and considerable wearing apparel, most of which belonged to Mrs. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson made one attempt at resistance, but desisted when the man threatened to knock him in the head with the shotgun. Mrs. Wilson, hysterical at first, subsided into an apathetic state that lasted long after the rob-

bers had gone. The couple took turns at guarding Mr. and Mrs. Wilson while the other went through the house, and when they were ready to leave forced the Wilsons into a closet and turned the key. It took Mr. Wilson some little time to force the key out and unlock the door with a passkey.

In his report to the sheriff's office Mr. Wilson stated that the bandits were young and well dressed. The woman wore a henna-colored hat and coat. Practically the only detail he noticed about the man was his striped silk socks and low shoes.

It is assumed that the couple had a car somewhere around the Eshelman avenue hill, but the Wilsons noticed none.

Extol Local Living

Masons Invite Public to Hear Program Friday Night

TORRANCE MEN TO TALK

Carl Hyde, Herbert Wood, Dr. Shidler to Make Addresses

Torrance business and professional men at the meetings of the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs last week made one-minute speeches on the subject, "What Can Torrance Do to Induce Men Who Work Here to Live Here."

The movement was initiated by Rufus Page, chairman of the industrial and housing committee of the Chamber of Commerce. He had charge of the Rotary discussion, which was repeated under the direction of James Leech, president of the Kiwanis Club, the next day.

Many suggestions were made. Some of them follow:

1—Torrance should sell itself on itself before it can sell itself to someone else.

2—The lack of desire of many who work here to live here is chiefly an attitude of the mind and could be changed by the right program of education.

3—Names of workmen who rent homes elsewhere should be supplied to the Chamber of Commerce by local industries and personal visits made by organized workers to urge upon employees of local factories the advantages of residence in Torrance.

4—Investment in the Torrance Mutual Building and Loan Association as a means of encouraging home-building.

5—More effort on the part of the Chamber of Commerce to get new residents, even if the present work on new industries must be delayed.

6—Improvement of transportation facilities and a lower rate on the Pacific Electric to and from Los Angeles.

7—Improvement of the Torrance civic spirit and the making of enthusiastic Torrance supporters out of knackers.

8—Stressing the fact that when a person buys land here he buys improvements, sewers, pavements, walks, trees, utilities in the alleys.

9—Renewed belief in Torrance by those who already live here so that all local residents will pass on their enthusiasm to those who do not live here.

Ardent pleas were made at both meetings for a more united effort for the promotion of Torrance by all men and women of the city and the casting aside of inconsequential differences of opinion.

Vermont Ave. Will Be Paved To the Harbor

Association Expects Work to Be Completed Within Eight Months

Good progress is reported on the paving of Vermont avenue through the harbor.

Judge J. S. Crandall of Gardena, president of the Greater Vermont Avenue Association, reports work on the paving between 182d street and 228th street is ready to proceed. It is asserted that work on the highway north to 228th street will be started soon.

Plans for the pavement between Gardena and 182d street will be ready shortly.

ONLY FEW TAKE UP CHANCE TO SECURE VALUABLE PRIZES

\$5000 in Awards, Including Hudson Coach and Chevrolet Roadster, as Well as Other Attractive Gifts Fail to Draw Many Candidates in Torrance and Lomita

RESPONSE TO GREAT OFFER IS DISCOURAGING

If You Can Use Money, a New Car, a Diamond, a Watch, a Radio Set, Come on in on Election in Which Everybody Wins

Torrance, Lomita and the entire section served by The Torrance Herald and The Lomita News is agog over The Herald-News' great "Everybody Wins" Free Gift Distribution.

Everybody is talking. And but few are doing. It is not talk that The Herald and News wants. It is CANDIDATES. And candidates are slow getting in. It is really puzzling to the management.

Why are so few contestants taking advantage of this great gift-giving campaign?

\$5000 in Automobiles, cash and other very valuable prizes are offered. Winners will get nearly as much for their efforts in the next few weeks as the average family man makes in a year. Yes, considerably more.

More Candidates Wanted

More active candidates are wanted—candidates who are real candidates, who will get in and "carry on"—candidates who are big enough that even flurries will not scare them. Fighters are wanted.

What difference does it make to you, a candidate, what John Jones is doing? You don't win that way. It is what you do yourself that wins for you. Winning is positive, not negative. It is the subscriptions that you turn in that will pile up your vote total.

Takes Foresight

It takes headwork as well as footwork. It takes foresight as well as hindsight. It takes a "DO" spirit.

If you are in, go get 'em. If you have been considering going after the big prizes, go after them. Everybody hates a quitter.

When The Torrance Herald and The Lomita News determined to give away over \$5,000.00 in Automobiles, Gold, Silver, and other valuable awards in this great gift distribution it was thought that the prize list was so liberal that scores would get in and carry on.

The fact that one stands to win up to \$175.00 and that "everybody wins something" ought to have been enough to "knock everybody cold." Really, that may be the case. Maybe you are "knocked so cold" you haven't yet fully recovered.

Come On In

You expected everyone in the territory served by The Herald and News to get into this election and everyone in this territory expected you to get in.

Tom Jones Wins Speech Contest at Beach City

Torrance Boy Goes Into District Oratorical Semi-Finals

Tom Jones, entrant from the Torrance High School in the National Oratorical Contest on the Constitution, won the first group contest at Redondo Beach last Friday night.

Six speakers delivered addresses. There were two from Wilmington and two from Compton. Miss Ruth Lingenfelter represented Torrance. Tom Jones will represent Torrance in the district semi-finals at Long Beach Friday night, May 7. A large delegation is expected to attend from Torrance.

Mrs. Kate Dale has returned from a visit with her sister, Mrs. George Rasmussen, of Hemet.

Observations

The Never-Ending Fracas Over Police Affairs—It Doesn't Mean Much—State Control Only Remedy for Police—One Step Out of Police-Picture

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

I HAVE yet to work on a newspaper in a city in which the police department is not a political football.

Since leaving college I have been engaged in various capacities ranging from managing editor to morgue reporter on 14 different newspapers. With a never-flagging interest in politics as the expression of a people's reaction under an experiment in democracy I have watched the maneuvers of political groups in these 14 cities and have found them all the same.

From the vantage point of the city room of a newspaper—and there is no better observation post—I have never seen a municipal election in which the police department was not an issue. Invariably someone seeks office on a platform that demands a "house-cleaning" in the police branch.

I HAVE yet to observe what could correctly be designated as a stable police department.

Probably the most insecure job in the world is that of the executive head of the police branch in an America city, depending as it does on the fickleness of public opinion.

Many cities have attempted to divorce the police from politics. Some have instituted civil service. Others have placed the department under the direction of a non-partisan appointive commission with full powers. But every move has failed to create of the police branch an entity independent of political whim.

THE history of every American city will reveal that good men have been ousted as police executives because of politics; that bad men have been continued at their jobs because of politics; that mediocre men have succeeded efficient men because of politics; that political house-cleanings following elections seldom accomplish permanent reform; that no human can satisfy both the conservative and liberal elements of any city; that police departments are generally inefficient because they are ruled by politics; that the whimsical public is a poor master; that the organized underworld in the larger cities usually has more to say about police policy than any other group.

ANY police executive who wants to hold his job in almost any city must play the game of politics. He must curry favor in various ways. He must regulate his department with an eye to every coming election, else he will have no department to regulate after the votes are counted.

If he fails to accept his position as a political one and governs himself without regard for politics, he is doomed certainly and surely to leave office in short order.

CONSIDER too the difficulty of his position. His is the responsibility of enforcing the law. Every man arrested by his department has friends. These friends strain every influence at their command to "fix things" for the accused. If the police executive listens to their pleas he makes enemies of those who demand law enforcement without favoritism. If he refuses to be influenced he makes enemies of all who have asked the favor. In either case he piles up opposition to himself. This process continues. In a year or two he has made a host of enemies. When those enemies and those they can influence constitute a majority of the voters at an election, or even a powerful minority, off goes your Mr. Police Executive's official head. And another is substituted, to last only as long as he can govern the mathematics by which his enemies multiply.

THESE conditions speak nothing for good municipal government. Many honest citizens have sat up nights devising ways and means of eliminating politics from their city police department. Eventually they have failed—because where politics govern part of a city, politics govern every department thereof.

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The result is but few are in; so few, in fact, that The Herald and News is not justified in announcing the nominations today.

There ought to be at least as many candidates as there are prizes offered. Not one of the prizes ought to go begging. The cash commission of 26 percent offered to him who do not win one of the prizes, and women, boys and girls in Torrance and Lomita and the territory served by The Herald and News who would have ambition and energy enough to grasp this exceptional opportunity. You must have the ability and the friends. Maybe you need someone to prod you along, to make you help yourself.

It's Not Elating

Frankly, the response to The Herald and News' election is discouraging. Really, it would seem that there are enough men and women, boys and girls in Torrance and Lomita and the territory served by The Herald and News who would have ambition and energy enough to grasp this exceptional opportunity. You must have the ability and the friends. Maybe you need someone to prod you along, to make you help yourself.

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Civic Leaders Lay Plans For Scout Building

Clubhouse to Cost \$500 Tentatively Planned at Meeting

Representatives of various civic organizations in Torrance met with Boy Scout executives at luncheon at the Ferncroft Cafe Monday and laid tentative plans for the construction of a clubhouse for the boys' organization in Torrance.

It is estimated that a suitable clubhouse can be built here adjacent to the American Legion clubhouse at a cost of about \$500.

The Scouts here have been handicapped by the lack of a meeting place and if a building were provided, Scout executives believe, the organization in Torrance would enjoy a considerable growth.

There are approximately 90 Scouts in Torrance.

Sargent hardware, Pacbo paints, and good lumber.

Consolidated Lumber Co.—Adv.